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PANAMA.

Reports from Colon—Inspection and fumigation of vessels—Case of malarial fever on steamship Preston—Passengers on steamship Mexico detained on account of elevation of temperature—Yellow fever case and death—Malarial fever prevalent.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Mohr reports, October 11 and 16, as follows:

During the week ended October 7, 1905, the following vessels cleared for ports in the United States and were granted bills of health:

American steamship *Mexico*, for New York, October 4, with 106 crew and 112 passengers.

Norwegian steamship *Preston*, for New Orleans, October 6, with 38 crew and no passengers; fumigated.

The steamship *Preston* was fumigated on her arrival at this port, and, after lying here six days to discharge cargo, was fumigated again prior to sailing. The purser of this vessel was suffering from a typical attack of malarial fever at the time of sailing and was allowed to proceed. Two passengers on the steamship *Mexico* were detained for further observation on account of elevation of temperature.

The sanitary conditions on the Isthmus, so far as yellow fever is concerned, continue encouraging. One case of yellow fever, however, was reported in Ancon Hospital on October 4, in the person of an American, station agent of the Panama Railroad at Matachin, about halfway, between Colon and Panama. The origin of this case is still in doubt as the infection was not known to exist in that place. It is presumed that the infection was brought there from Panama or Colon. This case resulted in death.

Malarial fever of the tertian type still prevails to a large extent among the recently arrived negro and Colombian laborers.

Week ended October 14, 1905. Vessels cleared for ports in the United States and granted bills of health:

British steamship *Louisianian*, for New Orleans, via Jamaica and Mexican ports, October 8, with 47 crew and 129 passengers for Jamaica.

British steamship *Tripoli*, for a port in the United States, via Santiago, Cuba, October 10, with 25 crew and no passengers; fumigated.

Norwegian steamship *Gere*, for New York, via Haitian ports, October 10, with 26 crew and 1 passenger.

American steamship *Havana*, for New York, October 11, with 103 crew and 41 passengers.

Spanish steamship *Montserrat*, for Ponce, via South American ports, October 12, with 120 crew and 140 passengers.

British steamship *Orion*, for New Orleans; via Belize and Mexican ports, October 14, with 35 crew and 1 passenger.

Inspection and fumigation of vessels—Sanitary conditions—Mortality at Colon and Cristobal during month of September, 1905.

No cases of yellow fever have been reported on the Isthmus during the past ten days, the last reported case having occurred at Matachin on October 4. The latter place has been thoroughly inspected and fumigated, without anything further suspicious being found. Considering the thorough work of inspection being carried on, it is justifiable to infer that no cases exist at present in Panama, Colon, or the

Canal Zone. The last case to occur in Cristobal was reported on August 7, since which time over 200 nonimmune employees have been transferred to that place from Panama; yet nothing of a suspicious nature has been observed among them. This is looked upon as good evidence that no infection exists there. The most rigid inspection of all hotels, lodging houses, and places of public resort has failed to reveal anything suspicious. The fumigation of such places at regular intervals continues.

I am informed that a strict watch is also being maintained in Panama, and that there the systematic fumigation continues to be enforced.

The death rate of the combined municipalities of Colon and Cristobal continues high. During the month of September the total number of deaths in these two places was 57 in an officially estimated population of 9,972, which brings the death rate to 68.5 per 1,000 per annum. The causes of death are herewith given as they appear in the official records:

Malarial fever	10	Uncinariasis	1
Pernicious fever	2	Convulsions, infantile.....	4
Intermittent fever	2	Heart disease	4
Bilious fever	1	Dropsy	1
Fever.....	6	Athrepsia	1
Dysentery	2	Lead poisoning.....	1
Tuberculosis	1	Injuries.....	3
Phthisis pulmonalis.....	5	Senility	1
Pneumonia	3	Stillbirths.....	3
Broncho-pneumonia	1	Unknown.....	4
Syphilis	1		

Of these only 3 deaths were of foreign whites, the others being all of natives and West Indian negroes. Fourteen of the total number were children under 5 years of age, not including the stillbirths, and 5 of these died from fever. Whether such cases have been made the subject of investigation I am unable to state.

Report from Bocas del Toro, fruit port.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Osterhout reports as follows: Week ended October 14, 1905: Present officially estimated population not obtainable; 2 deaths; prevailing diseases, malarial fever and yellow fever; general sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, infected.

Bills of health were issued to the following-named vessels:

Date.	Vessel.	Destination.	Number of crew.	Number of passengers from this port.	Number of passengers in transit.	Pieces of baggage.
Oct. 7	Taunton	Mobile, Ala...	26	0	0	0
12	Fort Morgando	24	0	0	0

Yellow fever cases—No general measures adopted for destruction of mosquitoes.

OCTOBER 6, 1905.

Another case of yellow fever has occurred in this port, making the fifth case for the present season.

This case is in my private practice. The patient lived in Habana during the American occupation, and in a section of the city in which